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For Immediate Release

Excise Officers Arrest Man for Heroin Possession

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind. (May 16) – Indiana State Excise Police officers arrested a man for heroin possession and resisting arrest last night after investigating complaints of drug use and sale of tobacco to juveniles at a Crawfordsville convenience store.

Excise officers went to Joey's Grab & Go, 626 S. Mill Street, in Crawfordsville around 9:30 last night after they received complaints alleging illegal drug activity and sale of tobacco to juveniles.

After observing suspicious activity, they approached a car parked at the convenience store. An officer spoke with Joshua K. Rector, 33, of Crawfordsville, who said he and another man in the car knew each other because they go to church together and are working on church renovations together. After Rector gave permission to check him for weapons and drugs, the officer located a small cellophane bag with an aluminum gum wrapper inside it. Rector then ran from officers, but only got a few feet before being put on the ground.

Rector was jailed on preliminary charges of possession of a controlled substance, a Class D felony, and resisting law enforcement, a Class A misdemeanor. Rector will appear in Montgomery County Superior Court.

Last night's arrest comes amid a concerning trend of increasing use and possession of heroin. State Excise Police are coming across the drug much more often now – something that had been fairly rare until last year.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.